

Come Out and Play!

Parks, Greenways and Recreation Services Newsletter

MARCH AND APRIL 2009

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SPECIAL POINTS OF INTEREST:

- Sightseers Events and Workshops
- Lake Julian Kid's Fishing Tournament
- NC Winter Special Olympics
- Dancing at the Zeugner Center
- Finding Quality Child Care
- Spring Break Camp
- What's happening at the Sport's Park

GOING GREEN WITH GREENWAYS

Greenways are linear parks or corridors of protected open space. They typically follow natural features such as rivers, streams, ridgelines or mountaintops. They may also be established along abandoned railroad lines, utility rights-of-way, scenic roads or other man-made features. Greenways can be owned at the federal, state, municipal or even private level.

Greenways provide connections. They link nature preserves, parks, historic sites, schools, neighborhoods, and businesses. Greenways can connect communities to each other, and all of us to the natural world.

And they can protect the most important places in our natural world. Greenways preserve the beauty of places that we know and cherish. Greenway corridors provide public access to waterways and ridge tops that could otherwise be restricted land.

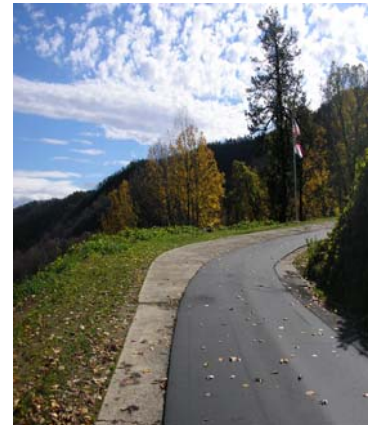
However, greenways are proving to be more than just a recreational amenity or a land conservation tool. Current research is showing that greenways can foster benefits for the public health and the economic development of a community. Greenways can:

- Enhance our quality of life by providing scenic places for us to enjoy.
- Provide close to home outdoor recreation opportunities. Because greenways are typically long and narrow, they provide more access to more people.
- Improve water quality and lessen the impact of flooding. Trees and other vegetation along river greenways filter surface runoff (pollutants) and prevent erosion by anchoring the soil along the banks. Also streamside vegetation acts as

a sponge to help absorb swollen rivers.

- Enhance or protect forests. Forests filter air pollutants and improve air quality. Forests also provide food and shelter for wildlife and lower summertime city temperatures by providing natural air conditioning.
- Benefit the economy by increasing adjacent property values, attracting new industry, stimulating re-investment in once blighted urban areas and encouraging tourism.
- Raise the property value of neighborhoods that are adjacent or in close proximity to greenways.
- Lower the crime rate of neighborhoods with greenways.
- Provide trails for recreation and for transportation routes that connect people, communities, and the countryside.
- Improve personal health and fitness for greenway trail users.
- Act as outdoor classrooms. What better way to learn about one's world than by being out in it.
- Encourage growth while protecting the green landscape for which our county is famous.

The Buncombe County Board of Commissioners adopted the Greenways Program in April 15th, 2008. Since then, a Greenway Commission was appointed. The commission is



Point Lookout Trail is a new greenway that makes good use of Old Highway 70 between Old Fort and Ridgecrest, NC.

comprised of a Chair and representative appointed by the PGR Advisory Board; representatives from the five municipalities within the county; representatives from the Land Conservation Advisory Board and the Environmental Advisory Board of the county; and two members at large. The Greenway Commission's Mission Statement is:

"To support and promote the development of an environmentally friendly system of connected trails and greenways to improve health, alternative travel, economic development and recreation in coordination with towns, cities, communities, businesses, non-profit organizations and adjacent counties."

For further information, please contact Lucy Crown at: greenways@buncombecounty.org.

LAKE JULIAN PARK KID'S FISHING TOURNAMENT-APRIL 25

It's Springtime at Lake Julian Park! The birds are singing, the flowers are blooming and the fish are biting.

The Kid's Fishing Tournament is a semi-annual event that takes advantage of the warming weather. This April's Tournament will be held on Saturday, April 25 from 8:30 until 11:30 a.m. The competition is for any child age 15 and under. No fishing license is required for children under 16 years of age.

The Kid's Fishing Tournament is a Catch and Release event. Catch a fish, place it in the bucket that is supplied by the Park, take it to be weighed and measured and then release the fish back into the lake.

What should you bring with you?
A fishing pole and bait. You can use any kind of pole and any kind of bait. Lake Julian Park will supply a bucket for your catch.

Where can you fish? Any place inside Lake Julian Park boundaries. You can use the docks, fishing pier or the banks of the lake. Sorry, no boat fishing allowed.

Prizes Galore! Children will be grouped into one of five age categories.

Prizes will be awarded in each age category. There are prizes for *The Biggest Fish*, *The Smallest Fish* and *The Most Fish Caught*.

There's more! All competitors in every age group have the opportunity to show off their casting skill. A prize will be awarded to one child in each age group. Kids can demonstrate their ability anytime during the Tournament using casting poles and targets supplied by Lake Julian Park.

What does it cost? \$5.00 per child. Pre-registration is a good idea but you can also register the day of the Tournament. Just be at the Park between 8–8:30 a.m.

What if the weather is bad?
It has to be REALLY bad to cancel the Tournament. Call if you are concerned.

Who else needs to come?
All youth must be accompanied by at least one adult.

Where is Lake Julian Park?
Lake Julian Park is located in Skyland on the banks of Lake Julian. The Park entrance is on Long Shoals Road at the Overlook Extension traffic light.

Fishing Tournament Rules:

- Fishing begins promptly at 8:30 and ends just as promptly at 11:30 a.m.
- No fish will be weighed or measured after 11:30 a.m.
- Bring your own pole and bait.
- Fish only from the shore. No boat fishing allowed.
- This is a Catch and Release event. All fish must be returned to Lake Julian.
- To register fill out the registration form at the bottom of this page..
- Please register only one child per registration form.
- For more information call Lake Julian Park at 684 -0376.

Bring the family and enjoy the day at beautiful Lake Julian Park.



Catch the Big One at the Kid's Fishing Tournament on April 25.

Lake Julian Park has a brand new floating dock.

Come out and enjoy the lake on one of the new paddle boats.

The playground overlooks the lake and is fenced to protect your little ones.

Picnic tables are located throughout the park and shelters are available to rent.

Detach the Registration Form and return with \$5 check made payable to:
Buncombe County Parks, Greenways and Recreation Services
59 Woodfin Place
Asheville, NC 28801

Kid's Fishing Tournament Registration Form

Child's Name (one child per form)		
Child's Age		
Mailing Address		
Parent/Guardian		
Phone Number	Home Phone	Cell Phone

SIGHTSEERS TRIPS SCHEDULED FOR SPRING

Grace Young and her ever-growing team of *Sightseers* are at it again. Grace has planned four Spring trips to some delightful locations.

March brings the daffodils, and where better to enjoy these yellow beauties than in Weaverville. On Thursday, March 12 the *Sightseers* will visit The Zebulon Vance Birthplace in stunningly beautiful Reems Creek. The pioneer farmstead is preserved on its original site. Go along and learn about the Vance family. The *Sightseers* never miss a meal. Lunch will be on your own and it will be fun.

On Friday, March 20 it's off to the Catawba Science Center in Hickory. This is a hands on museum for all ages. The *Sightseers* will enjoy the Featured Temporary

Exhibit, "Swamp Things — A Look at Life in the Southeastern Swamps." Be careful! There's a live alligator on display. Once again, it's lunch on your own. There will be no alligator burgers on the menu.

April brings more than showers. There's a trip planned to Helen, Georgia on April 8. Helen is a recreation of an Alpine Village complete with cobblestone streets and old-world towers. There are over 200 specialty shops. Restaurants are varied and delicious. Of course German cuisine is the choice of many visitors to this quaint and beautiful town.

Gatlinburg! Grace is planning a trip for April 29. The mountains will be alive with the sounds and

colors of spring. Bring your walking shoes and explore this village nestled beneath Mt. Leconte. Shopping abounds and an endless selection of restaurants make your lunch prospects a delightful dilemma. Walk along River Road and enjoy the quiet roar of the Little Pigeon River. Visit Arrowmont School of Arts and Crafts and browse through their unique shop. The possibilities are endless.

For information on these trips and other *Sightseer* events, check out pages 4 & 5 of this newsletter or call Grace Young at 250-4265.

Remember, *Sightseers* is not just for Seniors! Grace invites anyone who enjoys life to join in and see the sights that abound in Western North Carolina and in our neighboring States.



Sightseers trip to Hollywild Park in Inman, South Carolina.



Spring Sightseers Trips

- March 12 — Zebulon Vance Birthplace in Weaverville
- March 20 — Catawba Science Center in Hickory
- April 8 — Helen, GA
- April 29 — Gatlinburg, TN

BOBCAT GAMES

Buncombe County fans cheered the Bobcats on to victory against the Boston Celtics on January 6. Jay Nelson, of Parks, Greenways & Recreation, escorted two vans to the game at The Time Warner Cable Arena in Charlotte. The

Bobcats outscored the Celtics in a thrilling overtime battle. The final score was 114-106.

Nelson will be taking another group to Charlotte on March

31 to watch The Bobcats play The Lakers. The vans are already filled for this game but watch for more opportunities to join Parks, Greenways & Recreation as Jay Nelson plans exciting events for 2009.

ADULT LEAGUE KICKBALL SIGNUP ENDS MARCH 6

Haven't signed up for Adult League Kickball yet? There's still time. Just a few more days until March 6.

This year the Buncombe County Sports Park will host Adult Kickball. Kickball teams consist of 10 players. The cost to register is \$25 per person or \$200 for a team of 10. The registration fee includes team t-shirts.

Games are played on Tuesday and Thursday from 6 - 9 p.m. starting on April 2 thru May 28. If you have been thinking about something fun to do, something that will get you back in shape, this is it! Spring Adult Kickball!

Call or email Jay Nelson at 250-4269.



Adult Kickball at the Buncombe County Sports Park starts April 2

jay.nelson@buncombecounty.org

Buncombe County Sports Park

- 29 Acres
- Open 7 days a week
- 7 Premier Soccer Fields
- Playground ages 5–12
- Pavilion for rent
- Picnic Tables and Grills
- Walking Trail
- Bocce Ball Courts
- Volley Ball Court
- Restrooms



Come Out and Play!

SIGHTSEERS EVENTS AND WORKSHOPS FOR MARCH

Thursday March 5 1-3 p.m.	Scrabble Time - Administrative Office Things really warm up as we tackle the board game of Scrabble. You may need to carry your dictionary! Drinks and snacks are provided. Register by March 2.
Friday March 6 Noon	Croquet - Buncombe County Sports Park Bring a bag lunch and we will get together for a picnic before our game. Drinks are provided. Register by March 2.
Monday March 9 11:30 a.m.-1 p.m.	Lunch Bunch Bingo - Administrative Office Bring your lunch and a door prize. Dessert and drinks will be provided. Register by March 6.
Thursday March 12 10:30 a.m.-2 p.m.	Vance Birthplace, Weaverville, NC - Meet at Administrative Office The Zebulon Vance Birthplace is a 5 room pioneer farmstead tucked in the Reems Creek Valley. Cost includes transportation. Lunch is on your own. Register by March 6.
Friday March 20 10 a.m. -4 p.m.	Catawba Science Center , Hickory, NC - Meet at Administrative Office The Catawba Science Center offers hands on fun for visitors of all ages. Cost includes transportation and admission. Lunch is on your own. Register by March 16.
Monday March 23 11:30 a.m.-1 p.m.	Lunch Bunch Bingo - Administrative Office Bring your lunch and a door prize. Dessert and drinks will be provided. Register by March 19.
Thursday March 26 Noon	Bocce Ball - Buncombe County Sports Park Bring a bag lunch and we will get together for a picnic before our game. Drinks are provided. Register by March 23.
Monday March 30 1-3 p.m.	Scrabble Time—Administrative Office Join us for some stiff competition in the board game of Scrabble. Drinks and snacks are provided. Register by March 25.

✓	Event	Date	Cost
✓	Scrabble Time	March 5	Free
✓	Croquet	March 6	Free
✓	Lunch Bunch Bingo	March 9	1 Door Prize
✓	Vance Birthplace Trip	March 12	*\$5.00
✓	Catawba Science Center Trip	March 20	*\$20.00
✓	Lunch Bunch Bingo	March 23	1 Door Prize
✓	Bocce Ball	March 26	Free
✓	Scrabble Time	March 30	Free

Name _____
 Address _____

 Phone _____

Please fill out the form and mail or fax to the address below.
 Make checks payable to:

BUNCOMBE COUNTY PARKS, GREENWAYS & RECREATION SERVICES

59 Woodfin Place Phone: (828) 250-4265
 Suite 100 Fax: (828) 250-6259
 Asheville, NC 28801

*See Page 6 for Sightseers Refund Policies

SIGHTSEERS EVENTS AND WORKSHOPS FOR APRIL

Thursday April 2 Noon	Horseshoes - Meet at Lake Julian Park Bring a bag lunch and we will get together for a picnic before competing in a friendly game of Horseshoes. Drinks are provided. Register by March 30.
Friday April 3 Noon	Bocce Ball - Buncombe County Sports Park Bring your lunch and we will picnic before our Bocce Ball game. Drinks are provided. Register by March 31.
Monday April 6 11:30 a.m.-1 p.m.	Lunch Bunch - What Mountain Mobility and Asheville Transit Can Do For You - Administrative Office Bring your lunch and learn about our transportation system. Drink and dessert are provided. Register by April 2.
Wednesday April 8 8 a.m.-6 p.m.	Helen, GA Trip - Depart from Administrative Office Shop, dine and relax in the quaint Alpine Village of Helen. The cost includes transportation. Lunch is on your own. Register by April 1.
Thursday April 9 1-3 p.m.	Scrabble Time - Administrative Office Enjoy some friendly competition playing the challenging game of Scrabble. Drinks and snacks are provided. Register by April 6.
Monday April 27 12:30-1 p.m.	Lunch Bunch Bingo - Administrative Office Bring your lunch and a door prize. Dessert and drinks will be provided. Register by April 23.
Tuesday April 28 1-4 p.m.	Bowling - Meet at Sky Lanes, 1477 Patton Avenue Cost includes 2 games and shoes. Come and bowl with the Sightseer Tenpins. Register by April 23.
Wednesday April 29 8 a.m.-8 p.m.	Gatlinburg, TN Trip - Depart from Administrative Office Enjoy spring time in Gatlinburg. There is lots of shopping, wide variety of restaurants and some World Class attractions. Pull out your walking shoes and explore this mountain town. Cost includes transportation. Lunch is on your own. Register by April 23.
Thursday April 30 1-3 p.m.	Scrabble Time - Administrative Office Enjoy some friendly competition playing the challenging game of Scrabble. Drinks and snacks are provided. Register by April 27.

✓	Event	Date	Cost
	Horseshoes	April 2	Free
	Bocce Ball	April 3	Free
	Lunch Bunch - Transportation	April 6	Free
	Helen, GA Trip	April 8	*\$20.00
	Scrabble Time	April 9	Free
	Lunch Bunch Bingo	April 27	1 Door Prize
	Bowling	April 28	*\$7.00
	Gatlinburg, TN Trip	April 29	*\$20.00
	Scrabble Time	April 30	Free

Name _____
 Address _____

 Phone _____

Please fill out the form and mail or fax to the address below.
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 Suite 100 Fax: (828) 250-6259
 Asheville, NC 28801

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NORTH CAROLINA WINTER SPECIAL OLYMPICS GAMES HELD IN BLOWING ROCK

109 athletes from across the state, competed in the 2009 Special Olympics Winter Games on January 11 and 12. The games were held at Appalachian Ski Mountain in Blowing Rock, North Carolina. 15 counties were represented at this year's Games.

12 athletes represented Buncombe County. The athletes ranged in age from 11-26.

These young contestants competed in four different levels of Alpine skiing and snow-boarding events. They returned home from the Games with 9 medals and 2 ribbons.

The Local Special Olympics Spring Games will be held at TC Roberson High School football stadium on Monday, April 21st. This Track and

Field event is for athletes with special needs over the age of 8 years old. Come enjoy competing in Track and Field events which include running events, softball throw, tennis ball throw, running long jump, standing broad jump, wheelchair races and more. Volunteers are always needed for this event. For more information on registration and volunteering, call (828) 684-5072.

Specialolympicsbuncombecounty.org



Special Olympians at Winter Games.

ZEUGNER CENTER OFFERS DANCE CLASSES FOR ALL AGES

Want that weight to vanish? Are you weary of being asked to tap dance and having to say, "I don't know how"? How about some Jazz and Hip Hop to spice up your life and get that heart rate up?

The Idea Factory is offering dance classes for dancers ages 2 - 92. These classes are being held in the Main Room of the Zeugner Center in Skyland.

- **Monday** - Elementary Jazz, Elementary Ballet, Elementary Tap, Intermediate Jazz, Intermedi-

ate Ballet and Pointe.

- **Tuesday** - Home School Jazz/Hip Hop/Funk Fusion, Ballet/Tap, Apprentice Performing Group Class Dancers
- **Wednesday** - Stretch and Body Conditioning, Ballet for Adults, Tap for Adults, Hip Hop/Funk Fusion Classes
- **Thursday** - Pre-Jazz, Acrobatics and Tumbling, Hip Hop/Funk Fusion, Apprentice Performing Group Class

Dancers

- **Friday** - Mommy & Me Pre-Ballet class, Pre-Jazz, Home Schoolers Session (Musical Theater Dance), Special Sessions/Master Classes and Performance Group Rehearsals.



Learn to dance at the Zeugner Center in Skyland.

- **Saturday** - Pre-Ballet/Tap/Jazz Combo, Beginner Ballet/Tap Combination, Beginner Broadway Jazz, Hip Hop/Funk Fusion Class.

Call **The Idea Factory** for times, dates, ages and pricing. There is something for everyone. (828) 277-4010.

Call the Zeugner Center for information about renting the rooms for parties, classes or special events. (828) 684-5072.

*** SIGHTSEERS INCLEMENT WEATHER & REFUND POLICY**

IF BUNCOMBE COUNTY SCHOOLS ARE CLOSED DUE TO THE WEATHER, SCHEDULED TRIPS OR WORKSHOPS ARE AUTOMATICALLY CANCELLED.

INCLEMENT WEATHER POLICY: Buncombe County Parks, Greenways and Recreation Services reserves the right to cancel any trip or workshop at anytime due to inclement weather.

REFUND POLICY: Refunds will not be given unless a trip is cancelled due to inclement weather or lack of participation. (For more Sightseer updates see page 3.)



Gem Mining at Cowee Mines Franklin, NC

FINDING QUALITY CHILD CARE IN BUNCOMBE COUNTY

Do you need help finding a child care program? Buncombe County Child Care Services Resource and Referral offers a free confidential service that can give you a list of programs specific to your need.

We have information on programs that have star rated licenses through the Division of Child Development. These include Child Care Centers, Family Child Care Homes and

After School programs. We also have information on unregulated programs such as Preschool and Mother's Morning Out programs. We provide the name and location, cost, hours of operation and ages served.

For a list specific to your need please call 828-250-6700 or come by our office at 59 Woodfin Place, Asheville, NC 28801. Our office can send a list of referrals to your

home address, fax machine or email address. Visit our website at buncombecounty.org/childcare.



Children enjoying the playground at A-B Tech Child Care.

A-B Tech Child Care is one of 3 Child Care Centers operated by Buncombe County.

SPRING BREAK CAMP - APRIL 13 - 17

"SPRING BREAK CAMP FOR KINDERGARTEN THROUGH 8TH GRADE"

Buncombe County Parks, Greenways and Recreation Services is offering a week of fun activities and special programs at Spring Break Day Camp. Spring Break Day Camp will be held the week of spring break for rising kindergartners through eighth graders.

Can your child attend camp for only one or two days? Does he/she want to come for the full week of Spring Break? We can be as flexible as you like. Fees in-

clude all programs, transportation, and morning and afternoon snacks. Parents should provide a lunch for their camper.

Sign up early. Camp is limited to 13 campers per day.

For more information or to set up an appointment to register, contact Grace Young 250 4265 or email Grace at:

grace.young@buncombecounty.org

Spring Break Camp

Location: Leicester Community Center

Dates: April 13-17, 2009

Register by: Friday, April 3, 2009

Time: 7:30 am – 5:30 pm

Cost: \$150.00 per week

\$35.00 per day

Fees are due at the time of registration.



Last year's Summer Camp at Lake Julian Park.

ABYSA YOUTH SOCCER

Registration for the Spring 2009 ABYSA Recreation Soccer season, which begins play on March 14, shows that more kids than ever want to play the world's most popular team sport! If you missed the registration for this spring, it's still not too late.

The on-time registration deadline for U7-U18 players has

passed but there is still room on some teams in 4–5 year age groups. There are still some spaces available for older children but many of these teams have a waiting list. Register your child now to avoid being at the bottom of a long waiting list. The ABYSA will do their best to be sure that every child that wants to play will have the opportunity

to participate.

Online registration is quick and easy. Sign-up can be completed on the ABYSA Website or come by the office at 410 Swannanoa River Road (across from Wal-Mart). If you have any questions please contact ABYSA at (828) 299-7277 extension 305.

www.abysa.org



Youth Soccer at Buncombe County Sports Park

2009 SPONSORSHIP OPPORTUNITIES

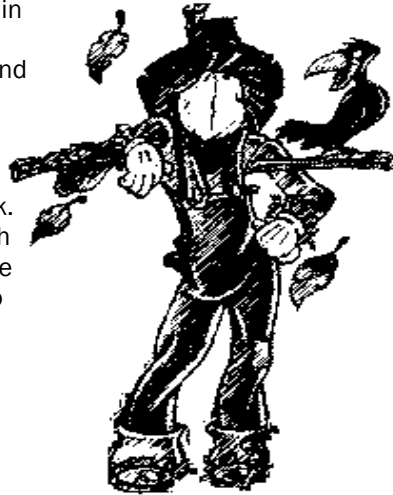
Buncombe County Parks, Greenways and Recreation Services

consistently seeks to form partnerships with area businesses and nonprofits. Throughout the year, there are several opportunities for area businesses to assist the department in special events programming through both financial sponsorships and in-kind donations.

The 5th Annual Scarecrow Festival & Craft Show will be held on Saturday October 3rd, 2009 at Lake Julian Park. This festival provides local artists with a venue to showcase their work to the Buncombe County community. It also places an emphasis

Scarecrow Festival

October 3, 2009
Lake Julian Park



on community participation in the arts through a scarecrow competition in which area residents design and create their own individual scarecrows. Financial sponsorships are needed to support both the grand prize and first place prizes for the Scarecrow Festival.

As part of the sponsorship agreement, Buncombe County Parks, Greenways and Recreation Services will use the sponsoring businesses' logo on all promotional materials associated with the Festival.

Interested in learning more about sponsorship opportunities through Buncombe County Parks, Greenways and Recreation Services? Contact Jessica Stevermer at 250-4263.

jessica.stevermer@buncombecounty.org

SIGHTSEERS

Events

pages 4 & 5

PRSR STD
US. Postage
Paid
Asheville, NC
Permit #122

BUNCOMBE COUNTY PARKS, GREENWAYS & RECREATION SERVICES

59 Woodfin Place
Suite 100
Asheville, NC 28801

Phone: 828-250-4260

Fax: 828-250-6259



Return Service Requested

G i v i n g Y o u G r e a t P l a c e s & G o o d T i m e s

Our Mission: To maintain and improve the quality of life for residents and visitors through recreational, cultural and educational opportunities.